Claims

We claim:

1. A cutting implement usable with a vehicle, the implement comprising:

a) a plurality of adjacent cutting chambers, each of the chambers having a front wall and a top surface in an interior thereof;

b) a cutting blade housed within each of the chambers, each of the blades being rotatable within its chamber and defining a cutting plane therein for the cutting of vegetation in the path of the implement, each of the blades causing a respective stream of air and vegetation to flow when it rotates and further causing its stream to be directed against and laterally along the front wall of its respective chamber, one blade further directing its respective stream along the front wall of an adjacent chamber; and

c) a baffle joined to the front wall of the chamber of the one blade and the adjacent chamber to form a pathway bounded by the baffle and top surface of the chambers for directing the stream from the one chamber to flow upwardly along an upper portion of the front wall of the adjacent chamber and the baffle.

2. The implement as recited in claim 1 wherein:

the baffle includes two portions with the first and second portions being joined to the front walls of the chamber of the one blade and the adjacent chamber and generally above the cutting plane of the blades therein, the portions being inclined to form a ramp along which the stream of the chamber of the one blade flows after it leaves the edge of its respective cutting blade.

3. The implement as recited in claim 2 wherein:

the baffle creates an area extending below its first and second portions in which the stream from the chamber of the one blade and that of the adjacent chamber is not introduced so as to permit the vegetation bent over by the front wall of the other adjacent chamber to straighten itself before it extends into the cutting plane of the blade within the adjacent chamber.

4. The implement as recited in claim 3 wherein:

the baffle extends laterally inwardly from the front walls of the chamber of the one blade and the adjacent chamber.

5. The implement as recited in claim 4 wherein:

the baffle extends laterally inwardly from the front walls of the chamber of the one blade and the other adjacent chamber.

6. A cutting implement usable with a vehicle, the implement comprising:

a) first and second laterally spaced and adjacent cutting chambers, both chambers having an interior surface and an exterior surface, the interior surfaces of both chambers having a front wall;

b) a discharge opening adjacent the first chamber for allowing material to exit the first chamber;

c) a cutting blade housed within each chamber for cutting vegetation in the path of the implement, each of the blades being rotatable so as to define a generally horizontal cutting plane, each of the rotating blades generating a stream of air to convey the cut vegetation outwardly from its edge when it rotates with the stream being directed against and along the front wall; and

d) a baffle joined to the front wall of the first chamber adjacent the discharge opening for directing the stream generated by rotation within the second chamber along an upper portion of the front wall of the first chamber and to the discharge opening.

7. The implement as recited in claim 6 wherein:

the baffle includes two portions with the first and second portions being secured to the front walls of the first and second chambers and generally above the cutting planes of the blades therein, the portions being inclined to form a ramp along which the streams are directed upwardly and outwardly as they leave their respective blades.

8. The implement as recited in claim 7 wherein:

the baffle reduces the stream or flow of cut vegetation below its first and second portions to permit the vegetation bent over by the front walls of the first and second chambers to straighten so as to extend into the cutting plane of the blade of at least the second chamber.

9. The implement as recited in claim 6 wherein:

the baffle constricts the area of flow available for the streams directed therealong and routes the stream from the second chamber above the baffle and the stream of the first chamber below the baffle.

10. The implement as recited in claim 9 wherein:

the baffle extends laterally inwardly from the front walls of the chambers.

11. The implement as recited in claim 8 wherein:

the baffle extends laterally inwardly from the front walls of the chambers.

12. A cutting implement usable with a vehicle, the implement comprising:

a) a plurality of adjacent cutting chambers, the chambers being defined in part by a continuous front wall on an interior thereof and each having a top surface therein;

b) a cutting blade housed within each of the chambers, each of the blades being rotatable within its chamber and defining a cutting plane therein for the cutting of vegetation in the path of the implement, each of the blades causing a respective stream of air and vegetation to flow when it rotates and further causing its stream to be directed against and laterally along the front wall of its respective chamber, one blade further directing its respective stream along the front wall of an adjacent chamber; and

c) a baffle joined to the front wall of the chamber of the one blade and the adjacent chamber to form a pathway bounded by the baffle and top surface of the chambers for directing the stream from the one chamber to flow upwardly along an

upper portion of the front wall of the adjacent chamber and the baffle.